

PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE 2015 ONTARIO FIRE CODE

(O. Reg. 213/07, as amended current to January 1, 2015)

CHANGE NUMBER: N/A

CODE REFERENCE: Division B, Sentence 2.7.2.2. (1)

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CHANGE:

Adding Door Latching, Fastening and Releasing Requirements for Floor Areas Containing Extraction Operations Involving the Use of Flammable Liquids, Combustible Liquids or Flammable Gases as Extraction Solvents

X Add a new requirement

X Making a technical change to an existing requirement

X Making an editorial/administrative change to an existing requirement

EXISTING OFC PROVISIONS

Requirements for locking, latching and fastening devices

2.7.2.2. (1) Subject to Sentences (2) and (3), locking, latching and other fastening devices shall be such that a door can be readily opened from the inside with no more than one releasing operation and without requiring keys, special devices or specialized knowledge of the door opening mechanism on,

(a) every **exit** door required by this Code, and

(b) every door that is in an **access to exit** and that opens into or is located within

(i) a **public corridor**,

(ii) a facility that provides **access to exit** from a **suite**, or

(iii) a facility that provides **access to exit** from a room serving patients or residents in a **care occupancy** or **care and treatment occupancy**.

PROBLEM

Current wording in Clause 2.7.2.2.(1)(a) suggests that requirements of this provision only apply to exit doors required by the Fire Code; however, these requirements are intended to apply to all required exit doors, not just those specified under the Fire Code.

Existing OFC provisions do not address releasing mechanisms to latching and locking devices on exit doors or doors that form part of an access to exit in floor areas that contain extraction operations involving the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as solvents.

PROPOSED OFC CHANGE

Note for Proposed OFC Change:

- Black indicates existing text.
- Red underline indicates new text.
- Red strikethrough indicates existing text that is being deleted.

Requirements for locking, latching and fastening devices

2.7.2.2. (1) Subject to Sentences (2) and (3), and unless otherwise **approved**, locking, latching and other fastening devices shall be such that a door can be readily opened from the inside with no more than one releasing operation and without requiring keys, special devices or specialized knowledge of the door opening mechanism on,

- (a) every required exit door ~~required by this Code~~, and
- (b) every door that is in an **access to exit** and that opens into or is located within
 - (i) a **public corridor**,
 - (ii) a facility that provides **access to exit** from a **suite**, or
 - (iii) a facility that provides **access to exit** from a room serving patients or residents in a **care occupancy** or **care and treatment occupancy**, or
 - (iv) a floor area or portion of a floor area that contains extraction operations involving the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents.

PROPOSED IN FORCE DATE

July 1, 2019

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

Industrial occupancies with extraction operations involving the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents and farm buildings containing similar operations for cannabis, are not explicitly subject to the latching, locking and fastening door hardware requirements outlined in Article 2.7.2.2. Due to the types of severe fire hazards that may be present in these types of operations, uncomplicated releasing mechanisms are warranted on doors that are part of an exit or access to exit.

IMPACT

- The proposed change to Clause 2.7.2.2.(1)(a) is an administrative change that is being made to clarify that this requirement applies to all required exit doors including those required by the Ontario Building Code and the Ontario Fire Code. As a result of the proposed new Article 1.3.1.2. of Division A, this requirement would also apply

to exit doors in floor areas or parts of floor areas in farm buildings that contain cannabis extraction operations using flammable solvents.

- The proposed change to Clause 2.7.2.2.(1)(b) would apply to any floor area or portion of a floor area that contains extraction operations involving the use of flammable liquids, combustible liquids or flammable gases as extraction solvents, including cannabis related extraction operations occurring in farm buildings. As a result there would be a small cost impact on these buildings. However, this requirement would not apply to other farm buildings given the farm building exemption provided in Article 1.3.1.1. of Division A.

OBJECTIVE BASED ANALYSIS OF THE CHANGE OR NEW PROVISION

N/A

FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT(S) AND LINK(S) TO OBJECTIVE(S)

2.7.2.2 (1) – Unchanged